

Response Guidance Update – 1 April 2020*

***For the latest, complete picture of the outbreak, see [CDC](#), [USA.gov](#), and [coronavirus.gov](#).**

Response Guidance:*

- Travel Guidance
 - [State Department](#): Global Health Advisory, Level 4: [Do Not Travel](#)
 - [CDC](#): [COVID-19 Travel Recommendations by Country](#)
 - [Washington Headquarters Services](#): Stay-at-Home Orders for MD, VA, and DC
- White House
 - [30 Days to Slow the Spread](#)
- CDC
 - [List of all CDC Guidance Documents](#) – sortable by audience
 - Public Health Recommendations for [People in U.S. Communities Exposed to a Person with Known or Suspected COVID-19](#), other than Health Workers or other Critical Infrastructure Workers
 - Updated [Interim Laboratory Biosafety Guidelines for Handling and Processing Specimens Associated with Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#)
- WHO
 - [Off-Label Use of Medicines](#) for COVID-19
- ACF
 - [Q&A about the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families \(TANF\) Guidance and the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
- OSHA
 - [Respiratory Protection eTool](#)
- USDA
 - FAQ for State Animal and Public Health Officials on [Companion Animal Coronavirus Testing and Companion Animal Coronavirus Testing](#)
- DoD
 - Memorandum Regarding [Travel for Official Duties in Maryland, Virginia, and DC](#)
- DoJ
 - [Memorandum for Director of Bureau of Prisons: Prioritization of Home Confinement As Appropriate in Response to COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
- EPA
 - [Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2](#)
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- DoDEA
 - [School Closures](#) due to COVID-19
- GSA
 - FAQs re: [Real Estate, Acquisition, and Other](#)
- HRSA
 - COVID-19 [FAQs](#)
- Treasury
 - [Guidance on Payroll Support to Aid Airline Industry Employees, and on Loans to Airline Industry and Businesses Critical to National Security, Pursuant to CARES Act](#)
- NGA
 - [Governor Guidance on the Energy Sector](#) During COVID-19 Response
- SAMHSA
 - [Considerations for the Care and Treatment of Mental and Substance Use Disorders in the COVID-19 Epidemic](#)
 - Interim [Considerations for State Psychiatric Hospitals](#)
 - COVID-19 [Public Health Emergency Response and 42 CFR Part 2 Guidance](#)
- NASEM
 - [Rapid Expert Consultation on Crisis Standards of Care for the COVID-19 Pandemic \(2020\)](#)
- USAID
 - COVID-19 [Guidance for Implementing Partners](#)

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Section 1. Persons Under Investigation (PUI) and Public Health Investigations

[Information for Health Departments on Reporting a Person Under Investigation \(PUI\) for 2019-nCoV](#) (CDC, 3/21)

Provides guidance and a standardized approach to report PUIs, presumptive cases and laboratory cases of COVID-19 to the CDC. Describes actions to take when the jurisdiction can or cannot do their own diagnostic testing.

[Evaluating and Reporting Persons Under Investigation \(PUI\)](#) (CDC, 3/14)

Outlines criteria to help guide evaluation of PUI for COVID-19 and provides recommendations for reporting, testing, and specimen collection.

[Interim US Guidance for Risk Assessment and Public Health Management of Persons with Potential Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) Exposures: Geographic Risk and Contacts of Laboratory-confirmed Cases](#) (CDC, 3/7)

Provides public health authorities and other partners in US jurisdictions that are not experiencing sustained community transmission of COVID-19 with a framework for assessing and managing risk of potential exposures to SARS-CoV-2 and implementing public health actions based on a person's risk level and clinical presentation.

[Interim Guidance for Public Health Professionals Managing People With COVID-19 in Home Care and Isolation Who Have Pets or Other Animals](#) (CDC, 3/4)

No evidence that companion animals, including pets, can spread COVID-19. States may have their own specific requirements for these circumstances; this guidance provides recommendations for a conservative approach due to the unknown risks to pets and other animals.

[Interim Guidance for Public Health Personnel Evaluating Persons Under Investigation \(PUIs\) and Asymptomatic Close Contacts of Confirmed Cases at Their Home or Non-Home Residential Settings](#) (CDC, 2/24)

This guidance addresses infection prevention and control practices when these activities are performed at a home or non-home residential settings, which warrant additional considerations beyond those described for healthcare settings.

[Flowchart to identify and Assess 2019 Novel Coronavirus](#) (CDC, 2/12)

Guidance on evaluating patients who may be ill with or who may have been exposed to COVID-19.

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Section 2. Personal Protective Equipment

[Respiratory Protection eTool](#) (OSHA)

This eTool provides instruction on the proper selection of respiratory protection and the development of change schedules for gas/vapor cartridges as well as helps you comply with the OSHA respirator standard. Respirators should be used for protection only when engineering controls have been shown to be infeasible for the control of the hazard or during the interim period when engineering controls are being installed. (Refer to Exposure Control Priority).

[Enforcement Policy for Gowns, Other Apparel, and Gloves During the Coronavirus Disease \(COVID-19\) Public Health Emergency](#) (FDA, March)

This guidance provides a policy to help expand the availability of surgical apparel for health care professionals, including gowns (togas), hoods, and surgeon's and patient examination gloves during this pandemic.

[Policy for Face Masks and Respirators during COVID-19 Public Health Emergency](#): Guidance for Industry and Food and Drug Administration Staff (FDA, 3/25)

FDA issued this guidance to provide a policy to help expand the availability of general use face masks for the general public and particulate filtering facepiece respiratory (including N95s) for health care professionals during this pandemic.

[Checklist for Healthcare Facilities: Strategies for Optimizing the Supply of N95 Respirators during the COVID-19 Response](#) (CDC, 3/2) and CDC Strategies for optimizing the supply of PPE, including: [eye protection](#); [isolation gowns](#); [facemasks](#); and [N95 respirators](#) (CDC, 3/17)

To help healthcare facilities prioritize the implementation of the strategies following the prioritization used in the concept of surge capacity. The strategies are categorized in a continuum of care and further organized according to the hierarchy of controls. Guidance discusses when PPE is absolutely necessary, who needs PPE, and alternatives to PPE when they are absent or in low availability. Examples of last resort options include using bandanas for facemasks and coveralls for isolation gowns.

[Temporary Enforcement Guidance – Healthcare Respiratory Protection Annual Fit-Testing for N95 Filtering Facepieces During the COVID-19 Outbreak](#) (OSHA, 3/14)

In light of the Presidential Memorandum on March 11, 2020, OSHA is providing this temporary guidance for 29 CFR § 1910.134, regarding required annual fit-testing (paragraph (f)(2)), which is to take effect from the date of this memorandum and remain in effect until further notice.

[Surgical Mask and Gown Conservation Strategies](#) – Letter to Healthcare Providers (FDA, 3/11)

Conservation strategies for use by healthcare organizations and personnel categorized for a range of needs and supply levels and are intended to assist healthcare organizations as they determine operating procedures during the COVID-19 outbreak. These strategies do not cover [N95 respirators](#) and are not limited to use in the care of patients infected with COVID-19.

[Recommendations on healthcare supply of PPE](#) (CDC, 3/10)

Based on the current COVID-19 situation and availability of PPE, CDC has specific recommendations, summarized in this guidance (including who needs and does not need PPE). Also included is a webinar for healthcare professionals with strategies for healthcare systems preparedness and optimizing N95 supplies.

[Guidance for use of Certain Industrial Respirators by Health Care Personnel](#) (CMS, 3/10)

This memo clarifies the application of CMS policies in light of recent CDC and FDA guidance expanding the types of facemasks healthcare workers may use in situations involving COVID-19 and other respiratory infections.

[Recommendations on Healthcare Supply of PPE](#) (CDC, 3/10)

This document summarizes specific recommendations based on the current COVID-19 situation and availability of PPE.

[Release of Stockpiled N95 Filtering Facepiece Respirators Beyond the Manufacturer-Designated Shelf Life: Considerations for the COVID-19 Response](#) (CDC, 2/28)

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Information is provided that may be used to inform these product release decisions. In times of respiratory protective device shortage, such as during the COVID-19 response, supplies must be managed so that protection against exposure is adequate.

[Frequently Asked Questions about Respirators and their Use](#) (CDC, 2/12)

This document is intended to address frequently asked questions about PPE, including what testing and standards should be considered, what type of gown is recommended for patients or PUIs, what types of gowns are available for healthcare personnel, etc.

Section 3. Laboratory Testing and Supplies

[Interim Laboratory Biosafety Guidelines for Handling and Processing Specimens Associated with Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#) (CDC, 3/31)

Until more information becomes available, precautions should be taken in handling specimens that are suspected or confirmed for SARS-CoV-2. Timely communication between clinical and laboratory staff is essential to minimize the risk incurred in handling specimens from patients with possible SARS-CoV-2 infection. Such specimens should be labeled accordingly, and the laboratory should be alerted to ensure proper specimen handling. General and specific biosafety guidelines for handling SARS-CoV-2 specimens are provided.

[Interim Guidelines for Collecting, Handling, and Testing Clinical Specimens from Persons Under Investigation \(PUIs\) COVID-19](#) (CDC, 3/24)

Clinicians who have identified a potential PUI should immediately notify their state or local health department. Local and state public health staff will determine if the person is a PUI and whether testing for COVID-19 is indicated. This guidance outlines assist clinicians to collect, store, and ship specimens appropriately, including during afterhours or on weekends/holidays.

[Guidance on Conducting Clinical Trials](#) (FDA, 3/18)

Guidance for industry, investigators and institutional review boards conducting clinical trials during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

[Medicare Administrative Contractor \(MAC\) COVID-19 Test Pricing](#) (CMS, 3/16)

Starting in April, laboratories performing test can bill Medicare and other health insurers for services that occurred after 04 Feb, using the newly created HCPCS code. Laboratories performing non-CDC laboratory tests for SARS-CoV-2 can bill for them using a different HCPCS code.

[FAQs on COVID-19 Testing at Laboratories](#) (CDC, 3/10)

Provides answers to FAQ about COVID-19 testing at public health, including information about testing kits and where public health labs can get access to testing kits.

[COVID-19 FAQs](#) (CDC, 3/28)

Answers fundamental questions about COVID-19, including how the virus spreads, how to protect oneself, symptoms and testing, as well as other questions about the virus.

[FAQ Sheet: Coverage and Payment Related to COVID-19 – Medicare](#) (CMS, 3/5)

Outlines Medicare coverage and payment of diagnostic tests, vaccines, inpatient hospital care services and quarantines, ambulatory services, telehealth and other communication-based technology services and prescription refills related to COVID-19.

[Research Use Only 2019-Novel Coronavirus \(2019-nCoV\) Real-time RT-PCR Primer and Probe Information](#) (CDC, 3/4)

Lists sequences are intended to be used for the purposes of respiratory virus surveillance and research. The recipient agrees to use them in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations

[FAQ for Diagnostic Tools and Virus](#) (CDC, 3/1)

Provides answers to FAQs about CDCs diagnostic tools and SARS-CoV-2.

[Policy for Certain REMS Requirements During the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency: Guidance for Industry and Health Care Professionals](#) (FDA, March 2020)

Risk evaluation and mitigation strategies (REMS) requirements remain in effect, but FDA does not intend to take enforcement action against sponsors or others for accommodations made regarding laboratory testing or imaging study requirements during the PHE.

[Updated Policy for Diagnostic Tests for COVID-19 during the Public Health Emergency](#) (FDA, March 2020)

Updated guidance for laboratories and commercial manufacturers to expedite availability of diagnostics: States to take responsibility for tests developed and used by labs in their states; Expanding who the policy applies; FDA will not object to commercial manufacturers distributing and labs using new commercially

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developed tests prior to FDA granting an EUA, under certain circumstances; Provides recommendations for test developers who may wish to develop serological tests for use during the outbreak

[Research Use Only Real-Time RT-PCR Protocol for Identification of 2019-nCoV](#) (CDC, 2/27)

Describes the use of rRT-PCR assays for the in vitro qualitative detection of SARS-CoV-2 in respiratory specimens and sera. The 2019-nCoV primer and probe sets are designed for the universal detection of SARS-like coronaviruses (N3 assay) and for specific detection of 2019-nCoV (N1 and N2 assays)

[Information for Laboratories](#) (CDC, 2/20)

Provides interim guidance and resources for laboratory professionals working with specimens from PUI for coronavirus disease 2019

[Notification to Surveyors of the Authorization for Emergency Use of the CDC 2019-Novel Coronavirus \(2019-nCoV\) Real-Time RT-PCR Diagnostic Panel Assay and Guidance for Authorized Laboratories](#) (CMS, 2/6)

Provides guidance to surveyors in regards to the authorization for emergency use of the CDC's 2019-nCoV Real-Time RT-PCR Diagnostic. Upon receipt of the CDC 2019-nCoV Real-Time RT-PCR Diagnostic Panel assay and corresponding Manufacturer's Instructions (MI), CDC qualified laboratories will verify assay performance specifications in their laboratory per the manufacturer's instructions. CMS is also providing guidance for surveyors to notify their CMS Location if they discover a laboratory using an assay without an EUA that is testing for the same agent for which the emergency has been declared, or a modified EUA assay.

Section 4. Hospitals and Inpatient Clinical Providers

- [Physicians and Other Clinicians: CMS Flexibilities to Fight COVID-19](#) (CMS, 3/30)
 - *These temporary changes will apply immediately across the U.S. healthcare system for the duration of the emergency declaration. The goals of these actions are to 1) ensure that local hospitals and health systems have the capacity to handle a potential surge of COVID-19 patients through temporary expansion sites; 2) remove barriers for physicians, nurses, and other clinicians to be readily hired from the community or from other states; 3) increase access to telehealth in Medicare; 4) expand in-place testing to allow for more testing at home or in community based settings; and 5) put Patients Over Paperwork.*

[Rapid Expert Consultation on Crisis Standards of Care for the COVID-19 Pandemic \(2020\)](#) (NASEM, 3/28)

In response to a request from the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine convened a standing committee of experts to help inform OSTP on critical science and policy issues related to emerging infectious diseases and other public health threats. The standing committee includes members with expertise in emerging infectious diseases, public health, public health preparedness and response, biological sciences, clinical care and crisis standards of care, risk communication, and regulatory issues. This publication articulates the guiding principles, key elements, and core messages that undergird Crisis Standards of Care decision-making at all levels.

[Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) Hospital Preparedness Assessment Tool](#) (CDC, 3/24)

This checklist does not describe mandatory requirements or standards; rather, it highlights important areas for hospitals to review in preparation for potential arrivals of COVID-19 patients.

[Information for Clinicians on Therapeutic Options for COVID-19 Patients](#) (CDC, 3/21)

There are no FDA approved drugs for the treatment of COVID-19. This guidance provides information on remdesivir, hydroxychloroquine and chloroquine, and lopinavir/ritonavir. Remdesivir can be administered through clinical trials or compassionate use. Clinical trials for chloroquine are expected to begin soon. Lopinavir/ritonavir did not show efficacy in clinical trials.

[Recommendations on Adult Elective Surgeries, Non-Essential Medical, Surgical, and Dental Procedures During COVID-19 Response](#) (CMS, 3/18)

The recommendations provide a framework for hospitals and clinicians to implement immediately during the COVID-19 response, with factors that should be considered for postponing elective surgeries, and non-essential medical, surgical, and dental procedures. The decision about proceeding with non-essential surgeries and procedures will be made at the local level by the clinician, patient, hospital, and state and local health departments.

[FAQs on Hand Hygiene for Health Personnel Responding to COVID-19](#) (CDC, 3/18)

Appropriate methods for hand hygiene for healthcare personnel. The CDC continues to recommend the use of alcohol-based hand rub as the primary method for hand hygiene in most clinical situations. CDC does not have a recommended alternative to hand rub products with greater than 60% ethanol or 70% isopropanol as active ingredients.

[COVID-19 Emergency Declaration – Health Care Providers Fact Sheet](#) (CMS, 3/13)

The following blanket waivers are available: skilled nursing facilities, critical access hospitals, housing acute care patients in excluded distinct part units, durable medical equipment, care for excluded inpatient psychiatric unit patients in the acute care unit of a hospital, care for excluded inpatient rehabilitation unit patients in the acute care unit of a hospital, supporting care for patients in long-term care acute hospitals, home health agencies, provider locations, provider enrollment, and Medicare appeals in fee for service.

[Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act \(EMTALA\) Requirements and Implications Related to Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#) (CMS, 3/9)

This memorandum conveys information in response to inquiries from hospitals and critical access to hospitals concerning implications of COVID-19 for their compliance with EMTALA, including EMTALA

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screening obligation and EMTALA Stabilization, Transfer, & Recipient Hospital Obligations. This guidance applies to both Medicare and Medicaid providers.

[Interim Clinical Guidance for Management of Patients with Confirmed 2019 Novel Coronavirus \(2019-nCoV\) Infection](#) (CDC, 3/7)

This interim guidance is for clinicians caring for patients with confirmed infection with SARS-CoV-2. Recent revisions include characteristics of patients with confirmed COVID-19, data regarding shedding, accessibility of investigational drug therapies, and recently published pediatric surviving sepsis guidance.

[Interim U.S. Guidance for Risk Assessment and Public Health Management of Healthcare Personnel with Potential Exposure in a Healthcare Setting to Patients with 2019 Novel Coronavirus \(2019-nCoV\)](#) (CDC, 3/7)

This interim guidance is intended to assist with assessment of risk, monitoring, and work restriction decisions for HCP with potential exposure to COVID-19. The guidance for non-healthcare settings can also be used to identify the movement, public activity and travel restrictions that apply to the HCP included here.

[CMS Guidance suspending non-emergency inspections to allow inspectors to focus on COVID-19](#) (CMS, 3/5)

CMS is suspending non-emergency inspections across the country, allowing inspectors to turn their focus on the most serious health and safety threats like infectious diseases and abuse. CMS is issuing this memorandum to State Survey Agencies to provide important guidelines for the inspection process in situations in which a COVID-19 is suspected.

[CMS FAQs and Considerations for Patient Triage, Placement, and Hospital Discharge](#) (CMS, 3/4)

CMS regulations and guidance support hospitals taking appropriate action to address potential and confirmed COVID cases and mitigate transmission including screening, discharge, and transfers from the hospital, and visitation.

[Enforcement Policy for Ventilators and Accessories and Other Respiratory Devices During the Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) Public Health Emergency; Guidance for Industry and FDA Staff](#) (FDA, March 2020)

To ensure the availability of devices, FDA does not intend to object to limited modifications to FDA-cleared devices used to support patients with respiratory failure.

[Interim Guidance for Healthcare Facilities: Preparing for Community Transmission of COVID-19 in the United States](#) (CDC, 2/29)

This interim guidance outlines goals and strategies for all U.S. healthcare facilities to prepare for and respond to community spread of coronavirus disease-2019 (COVID-19).

[Interim Considerations for Infection Prevention and Control of Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) in Inpatient Obstetric Healthcare Settings](#) (CDC, 2/18)

These infection prevention and control considerations are for healthcare facilities providing obstetric care for pregnant patients with confirmed COVID-19 or pregnant persons under investigation (PUI) in inpatient obstetric healthcare settings including obstetrical triage, labor and delivery, recovery and inpatient postpartum settings.

[Interim Guidance for Discontinuation of Transmission-Based Precautions and Disposition of Hospitalized Patients with COVID-19](#) (CDC, 2/16)

Guidance for healthcare providers and public health officials managing patients with COVID-19 to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 in healthcare facilities. Intended to be a reference to guide healthcare staff and public health officials regarding discontinuing transmission-based precautions and discharging hospitalized patients with COVID-19.

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Section 5. Outpatient Health Care and Pre-Hospital Care

[Infection prevention and control for Alternate Care Sites](#) (CDC, 3/25)

This guidance provides critical infection prevention and control (IPC) considerations for isolation sites and ACS, and is intended to supplement existing plans (created by jurisdictions as part of pandemic planning).

[FAQ for Healthcare Providers](#) (CDC, 3/22)

Clinical features, who's at risk, which body fluids spread infection, how personnel can protect themselves, etc.

[FAQs on Hand Hygiene for Health Personnel Responding to COVID-19](#) (CDC, 3/18)

Appropriate methods for hand hygiene for healthcare personnel. The CDC continues to recommend the use of alcohol-based hand rub as the primary method for hand hygiene in most clinical situations. CDC does not have a recommended alternative to hand rub products with greater than 60% ethanol or 70% isopropanol as active ingredients.

[Medicare Telemedicine Health Care Provider Fact Sheet](#) (CMS, 3/17)

CMS broadened access to Medicare telehealth services so that beneficiaries can receive a wider range of services from their doctors without having to travel to a healthcare facility.

[Expanding Medicare's telehealth benefits under 1135 waiver authority](#) (CMS, 3/17)

Medicare will temporarily pay clinicians to provide telehealth services for beneficiaries residing across the entire country.

[Discontinuation of Home Isolation for Persons with COVID-19](#) (CDC, 3/16)

This guidance is based on available information about COVID-19 and what is known about similar diseases caused by related coronaviruses.

UPDATED to include discussion stating that only a single nasal swab is needed, compared to nasal and oral swab.

[Discontinuation of In-Home Isolation for Immunocompromised Persons with COVID-19 \(Interim Guidance\)](#) (CDC, 3/16)

Maintain home isolation until: Resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and; Improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath) and; Negative results of an FDA Emergency Use Authorized molecular assay for COVID-19 from at least two consecutive nasopharyngeal swab specimens collected ≥24 hours apart (total of two negative specimens)

[Prepare to Care for COVID-19: Get Your Practice Ready](#) (CDC, 3/15)

CDC's Prepare to Care for COVID-19 is a resource with practical tools clinicians can use to care for patients with COVID-19, and will be regularly updated to help clinicians adapt as the outbreak unfolds. Highlights one page handouts that's clinicians can use to care for patients with COVID-19.

[Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Patients with Confirmed COVID-19 or PUI for Healthcare Settings](#) (CDC, 3/10) and [Healthcare Infection Prevention and Control FAQs for COVID-19](#) (CDC, 3/10)

These guidance documents, applicable to all U.S. healthcare settings and not intended for non-healthcare settings, outline what is currently known about community transmission, infection in healthcare personnel, shortages of PPE and provides recommendations for minimizing infections in the healthcare setting.

[Interim Guidance for Emergency Medical Services \(EMS\) Systems and 911 Public Safety Answering Points \(PSAPs\) for COVID-19 in the United States](#) (CDC, 3/10)

This guidance applies to all first responders, including law enforcement, fire services, emergency medical services, and emergency management officials, who anticipate close contact with persons with confirmed or possible COVID-19 in the course of their work.

- [What EMS and 911 Need to Know about COVID-19](#) (CMS, 2/24)
- YouTube Video. The NHTSA Office of EMS hosts a special edition of EMS Focus, a Federal webinar series, to discuss the latest updates on COVID-19, the novel coronavirus that has now infected thousands of people worldwide. Representatives of the US Centers for Disease Control

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and Prevention (CDC) and the US Health and Human Services Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) were invited to participate on the webinar panel.

[Interim Guidance for Preventing the Spread of Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) in Homes and Residential Communities](#) (CDC, 2/18)

This guidance provides clarification regarding evaluation for home isolation and a new section with information regarding preventative steps for household members, intimate partners, and caregivers in a non-healthcare setting of a person with symptomatic, laboratory-confirmed COVID-19.

[Interim Guidance for Implementing Home Care of People Not Requiring Hospitalization for 2019 Novel Coronavirus \(2019-nCoV\)](#) (CDC, 2/12)

This guidance is for staff at local and state health departments, infection prevention and control professionals, and healthcare personnel who are coordinating the home care and isolation of people with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 infection, including persons under investigation.

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Section 6. Elder Care, Independent Living, Retirement Communities, and Long Term Care Facilities

[COVID-19 Guidance](#) (Administration for Community Living, March)

- [Eldercare Locator & Caregiver Corner](#)
- [Guidance for Those Receiving ACL Funding](#)

[Coronavirus disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) Checklist: Older Persons](#) (CDC, 3/22)

Older adults or individuals with severe chronic medical conditions such as heart or lung disease, or diabetes, are at higher risk for more serious COVID-19 illness. This checklist identifies the steps older adults can take to keep themselves safe.

[Preparing for COVID-19: Long-term Care Facilities, Nursing Homes](#) (CMS, 3/21)

Use these recommendations with CDC's [Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Patients with Confirmed COVID-19 or PUIs for COVID-19 in Healthcare Settings](#). These recommendations are specific for nursing homes, including skilled nursing facilities. Much of this information could also be applied in assisted living facilities. This information complements, but does not replace, the general [infection prevention and control recommendations](#) for COVID-19.

[Guidance for Retirement Communities and Independent Living](#) (CDC, 3/20)

At all times, these facilities should encourage staff and community members to protect their personal health, post signs and symptoms of COVID-19, encourage people to stay home when sick, clean surfaces that are frequently touched, limit events and meetings that require close contact, stay up to date on developments in the community, create emergency plans for outbreaks. During an outbreak, separate anyone who is sick, inform individuals who may be exposed, connect with local health departments, cancel events and put infectious disease plans into action accordingly.

[Preventing the Spread of COVID-19 in Retirement Communities and Independent Living Facilities \(Interim Guidance\)](#) (CDC, 3/20)

Guidance recommends administrators cancelling non-essential group activities and events, clean all common areas, establish a "buddy system," limit the number of and screen visitors. Other recommendations align with other guidance, such as maintaining hygiene and having enough medication on-hand.

[Information for PACE Organizations Regarding Infection Control and Prevention of Coronavirus Disease 2019](#) (CMS, 3/18)

Program officers must follow CDC, must follow a document plan, and should monitor CDC and CMS websites for updated recommendations and guidelines.

[CMS Guidance for Infection Control and Prevention of COVID-19 in nursing homes](#) (CDC, 3/17)

In coordination with CDC, this guidance outlines specific actions that nursing homes can take to minimize COVID-19 infection, including revised guidance for visitation. In addition to the overarching regulations and guidance, CMS provided corresponding FAQs. Revised guidance for visitation.

[COVID-19 Emergency Declaration – Health Care Providers Fact Sheet](#) (CMS, 3/13)

The following blanket waivers are available: skilled nursing facilities, critical access hospitals, housing acute care patients in excluded distinct part units, durable medical equipment, care for excluded inpatient psychiatric unit patients in the acute care unit of a hospital, care for excluded inpatient rehabilitation unit patients in the acute care unit of a hospital, supporting care for patients in long-term care acute hospitals, home health agencies, provider locations, provider enrollment, and Medicare appeals in fee for service.

[Guidance for Infection Control and Prevention Concerning COVID-19 in Home Health Agencies \(HHAs\)](#) (CMS, 3/10)

CMS regulations and guidance support Home Health Agencies taking appropriate action to address potential and confirmed COVID cases and mitigate transmission including screening, treatment, and transfer to higher level care (when appropriate). This guidance applies to both Medicare and Medicaid providers.

[Guidance for Infection Control and Prevention Concerning Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) by Hospice Agencies](#) (CDC, 3/9)

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In coordination with CDC, this guidance outlines specific actions that hospice agencies can take to minimize COVID-19 infection. CMS regulations and guidance support Hospice Agencies taking appropriate action to address potential and confirmed COVID cases and mitigate transmission, including screening, treatment, and transfer to higher level care. This guidance applies to both Medicare and Medicaid providers.

Section 7. General Public, Community Organizations, and Individuals at Home

[30 Days to Slow the Spread](#) (White House, 3/31)

The President's coronavirus guidelines for America.

○ [Public Health Recommendations for People in U.S. Communities Exposed to a Person with Known or Suspected COVID-19, other than Health Workers or other Critical Infrastructure Workers](#) (CDC, 3/31)

Public health recommendations have been updated to accommodate new scientific evidence, evolving epidemiology and the need to simplify risk stratification. New recommendations are based on:

- *Growing evidence of transmission risk from infected persons without symptoms or before the onset of recognized symptoms;*
- *Increased community transmission in many parts of the country;*
- *A need to communicate effectively to the general public and to simplify implementation for public health authorities;*
- *Limitations in access to COVID-19 testing and increasing number of cases diagnosed clinically*
- *Continued focus on reducing transmission through social distancing of individuals in affected areas*

[Non-Congregate Sheltering](#) (FEMA, 3/31)

This document provides answers to frequently asked questions about non-congregate sheltering during the Secretary of Health and Human Services' (HHS') declaration of a Public Health Emergency for COVID-19.

[CDC Statement on COVID-19 Apple App](#) (CDC, 3/27)

Today, Apple Inc. – in partnership with the White House Coronavirus Task Force and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) – released an app and website that guides Americans through a series of questions about their health and exposure to determine if they should seek care for COVID-19 symptoms. The tool provides CDC recommendations on next steps including guidance on social distancing and self-isolating, how to closely monitor symptoms, recommendations on testing, and when to contact a medical provider.

[Print Resources](#) (CDC, 3/23)

Presents one page infographics about COVID-19 for a variety of audiences, including health care professionals and every-day Americans.

[FDA advises patients on use of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs \(NSAIDs\) for COVID-19](#) (FDA, 3/19)

At this time, FDA is not aware of scientific evidence connecting the use of NSAIDs, like ibuprofen, with worsening COVID-19 symptoms. The agency is investigating this issue further and will communicate publicly when more information is available. However, all prescription NSAID labels warn that “the pharmacological activity of NSAIDs in reducing inflammation, and possibly fever, may diminish the utility of diagnostic signs in detecting infections.”

[Caring for Someone at Home](#) (CDC, 3/18)

If you are caring for someone at home, monitor for emergency signs, prevent the spread of germs, treat symptoms, and carefully consider when to end home isolation.

[COVID-19 Partner Toolkit](#) (CMS, 3/17)

Toolkit to help stay informed on CMS and HHS materials available on COVID-19. Includes audio files; links to federal websites; infographics; information for Medicare beneficiaries; caregivers; marketplace consumers; clinicians; care settings; and health plans and states.

[Get Your Mass Gatherings or Large Community Events Ready](#) (CDC, 3/15)

Interim guidance. CDC recommends that for the next 8 weeks, organizers (whether groups or individuals) cancel or postpone in-person events that consist of 50 people or more.

[How to Prepare / Protect Your Family / Protect Your Home / Symptoms & Testing / If You Are Sick](#) (CDC, 3/13-14)

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Steps to take to protect family, including protecting yourself and your children, getting your home ready, and information re: pregnancy and breastfeeding.

[Get Your Home Ready, Clean & Disinfect, Checklist to Get Ready](#) (CDC, 3/13)

Information on how to protect your home, including getting your home ready, cleaning and disinfecting, and a checklist to get ready.

[Implementation of Mitigation Strategies for Communities](#) (CDC, 3/10)

This framework for actions which local and state health departments can recommend in their community to both prepare for and mitigate community transmission of COVID-19 in the United States. Selection and implementation of these actions should be guided by the local characteristics of disease transmission, demographics, and public health and healthcare system capacity.

[Guidance for Medicare Advantage and Part D Plans to Respond to COVID-19](#) (CDC 3/10)

Guidance for Medicare Advantage Organizations and Part D Sponsors to inform them of the obligations and permissible flexibilities related to disaster and emergencies resulting from COVID-19.

[Coverage and Benefits Related to COVID-19 Medicaid and CHIP](#) (CMS, 3/5)

Brief overview of Medicaid/CHIP benefits, cost sharing premiums, using Medicaid and CHIP in other states, and obtaining Medicaid/CHIP coverage.

[Share the Facts, Stop Fear: Know the facts about coronavirus disease 2019 and help stop the spread of rumors](#) (CDC, 3/4)

Simple job aid with facts for public re: race and ethnicity and COVID-19, signs and symptoms, increased risk, quarantine and isolation, and staying healthy.

[Interim Guidance: Get Your Household Ready for Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#) (CDC, 3/3)

This interim guidance is to help household members plan for community transmission of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) in the United States.

[Interim Guidance: Public Health Communicators Get Your Community Ready for Coronavirus Disease 2019](#) (CDC, 3/1)

This guidance provides information about non-pharmaceutical interventions (NPIs) and their use during a COVID-19 outbreak. NPIs are actions, apart from getting vaccinated and taking antiviral medications that people and communities can take to help slow the spread of respiratory illnesses like COVID-19.

[What to Do If You Are Sick With Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#) (CDC, 3/1)

Outlines steps that individuals can take to prevent the spread of COVID-19 including stay home except to get medical care, separate yourself from other people and animals in your home, call ahead before visiting your doctor, wear a facemask if you are sick, and practice good hand hygiene.

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Section 8. Public Services, Military, Law Enforcement, and Finance

[Guidance for Correctional and Detention Facilities](#) (CDC, 3/29)

Provides interim guidance specific for correctional facilities and detention centers during the outbreak of COVID-19, to ensure continuation of essential public services and protection of the health and safety of incarcerated and detained persons, staff, and visitors.

[Guidance on COVID-19, including information about detention facilities](#) (ICE, 3/28)

Information to public, media, family members with those in custody, and all other stakeholders are encouraged to revisit this site as often as possible for any updates to this extremely fluid situation.

[FEMA Administrator Letter to Emergency Managers Requesting Action on Critical Steps](#) (FEMA, 3/27)

Seven critical steps that I ask you to immediately consider and act upon.

[Memorandum for Director of Bureau of Prisons: Prioritization of Home Confinement As Appropriate in Response to COVID-19 Pandemic](#) (DoJ, 3/26)

Memo to ensure the utilization of home confinement, where appropriate, to protect the health and safety of Bureau of Prisons personnel and people in custody.

[Governor Guidance on the Energy Sector During COVID-19 Response](#) (NGA, 3/25)

This memo serves to provide guidance to governors on how they can best support and protect the energy industry during the COVID-19 pandemic. It highlights three areas governors should consider to ensure energy continuity and shares the energy industry response to COVID-19.

[Coronavirus Information for Bankers and Consumers](#) (FDIC, 3/20)

The FDIC is working with federal and state banking agencies, as well as, financial institutions to consider all reasonable and prudent steps to assist customers in communities affected by the Coronavirus (COVID-19).

[COVID-19 Pandemic: Eligible Emergency Protective Measures](#) (FEMA, 3/19)

Urges officials to immediately take appropriate actions that are necessary to protect public health and safety pursuant to public health guidance and conditions and capabilities in their jurisdictions. FEMA provides the following guidance on the types of emergency protective measures that may be eligible under FEMA's Public Assistance Program in accordance with the COVID-19 Emergency Declaration in order to ensure that resource constraints do not inhibit efforts to respond to this unprecedented disaster.

[Blood Donations: Update](#) (FDA, 3/19)

FDA outlines the need for blood donations during the COVID-19 outbreak.

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): Information for Federally Insured Credit Unions](#) (National Credit Union Administration, 3/18)

Highlights what the NCUA to ensure that credit unions can take reasonable and prudent steps to assist members and communities impacted by the coronavirus, and to manage their operations.

[Treasury and IRS Issue Guidance on Deferring Tax Payments Due to COVID-19 Outbreak](#) (Treasury, 3/18)

Following President emergency declaration pursuant to the Stafford Act, the U.S. Treasury Department and Internal Revenue Service (IRS) today issued guidance allowing all individual and other non-corporate tax filers to defer up to \$1 million of federal income tax (including self-employment tax) payments due on April 15, 2020, until July 15, 2020, without penalties or interest.

[Risk Management for Novel COVID-19](#) (CISA, 3/18)

For executives to help them think through physical, supply chain, and cybersecurity issues that may arise from the spread of COVID-19.

[Civilian personnel guidance for DoD components in responding to COVID-19](#) (DOD, 3/10)

Identifies authorities and best practice to help the Department minimize risk to its civilian personal and their families, as well as to ensure the readiness of the force to continue to execute our missions and support domestic and international partners.

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[What law enforcement personnel need to know about coronavirus disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#) (CDC, 3/7)

Summarizes background information on COVID-19 and highlights measures that law enforcement personnel can take to protect themselves.

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Section 9. Workplaces and Business Operations

[Advisory Memorandum on Identification of Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers During COVID-19 Response](#) (CISA, 3/28)

CISA developed, in collaboration with other federal agencies, State and local governments, and the private sector, an “Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce” advisory list. This list is intended to help State, local, tribal and territorial officials as they work to protect their communities, while ensuring continuity of functions critical to public health and safety, as well as economic and national security.

[Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers to Plan and Respond to Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#) (CDC, 3/22)

This guidance is designed to help prevent workplace exposures to acute respiratory illnesses, including COVID-19, in non-healthcare settings. The guidance also provides planning considerations if there are more widespread, community outbreaks of COVID-19.

[Guidance on Essential Critical Workforce: Ensuring Community and National Resilience in COVID-19 Response](#) (CISA, 3/19)

Identified essential critical infrastructure workers that is needed to maintain the services and functions that Americans depend on daily. Examples of the workforce include: communications, chemical, nuclear, energy, government facilities, healthcare and public health, defense industrial base, water, and many others.

[Guidance on Visitors and Food Services](#) (USDA, 3/16)

USDA recommends adjusting public and visitor access until further notice by reconsidering visits, scheduling and screening visitors, requiring escorts. All USDA controlled food service at USDA facilities will be closed to the general public and visitors.

[Statement by the DoD on COVID-19 Response Measures on the Pentagon Reservation](#) (DoD, 3/14)

Secretary of Defense approved a recommendation to increase the Health Protection Condition level to BRAVO at the Pentagon Reservation, and CHARLIE at the Armed Forces Retirement Homes in Gulfport, Mississippi, and Washington, District of Columbia, to assist public health efforts and contain the spread of the virus at the Pentagon and associated facilities in the National Capital Regions, including the Mark Center, Defense Health Headquarters, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces, and DOD leased facilities, as well as our Retirement Homes.

[Interim Guidance to Help Prevent Worker Exposure to COVID-19](#) (OSHA)

Guidance to employers to adapt infection control strategies based on a thorough hazard assessment, using appropriate combinations of engineering and administrative controls, safe work practices, and PPE to prevent worker exposure. The page also includes general guidance for all U.S. workers and employers, including washing hands, etc.

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): Small Business Guidance & Loan Resources](#) (SBA)

Small business owners can apply for the Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program. Local assistance, government contracting, SBA products and resources, and specific guidance from other agencies are discussed.

[Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19](#) (OSHA, 3/10)

This guidance is not a standard or regulation, and it creates no new legal obligations. It contains recommendations as well as descriptions of mandatory safety and health standards. The recommendations are advisory in nature, informational in content, and are intended to assist employers in providing a safe and healthful workplace.

[Keeping the Workplaces, Homes, School, or Commercial Establishments Safe](#) (CDC, 3/10)

Job aid encouraging employees to practice good hygiene, be careful with meetings and travel, stay home if..., etc.

[Guidance for Military Installation Commanders' Risk-Based Measured Responses to Novel Coronavirus Outbreak](#) (DoD, 2/25)

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Outlines “Recommended Military Commander Response Measures” prior to community transmission through widespread community transmission.

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Section 10. Administrative Guidance and Instructions for Federally Funded Programs

[COVID-19 Guidance for Implementing Partners](#) (USAID)

[FAQs re: Real Estate, Acquisition, and Other](#) (GSA, 3/31)

[COVID-19 FAQs](#) (HRSA, 3/31)

FAQs re: funding, program oversight and monitoring, providing care during emergencies, FTCA requirements, service delivery, temporary sites, quality improvement, and partnerships and special populations.

[Memorandum Regarding Travel for Official Duties in Maryland, Virginia, and DC](#) (DoD, 3/31)

Restrictions on movement, activities, and businesses should not prevent DoD personnel from traveling to or from their places of federal duty or for their official duties.

[Procurements Under Grants During Periods of Exigent or Emergency Circumstances](#) (FEMA, 3/31)

[Options for Telework-Eligible Employees with Caregiving Responsibilities](#) (OPM, 3/27)

OPM and OMB have received numerous questions regarding the circumstances faced by telework-eligible employees who have caregiving responsibilities due to closure of schools and/or unavailability of care providers as a result of locally-directed precautions for COVID-19. What options do agencies have for dealing with employees in these circumstances?

[Supplemental Guidance on Administrative Flexibilities for Grants and Cooperative Agreements in Response to COVID-19 Pandemic](#) (USAMRAA, 3/25)

Exceptions, aligned with the format in Memorandum M-20-17 and guidance from the DoD.

[Q&A about the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families \(TANF\) Guidance and the COVID-19 Pandemic](#) (ACF, 3/24)

The guidance states that while ACF does not have authority to waive the work participation rate that states must meet, it does have authority to grant relief from resulting penalties in the face of natural disasters and other calamities

[On-boarding Processes for New Employees During the COVID-19 Emergency](#) (OPM, 3/24)

The purpose of this Memorandum is to provide agencies with additional guidance related to on-boarding processes for new employees during the COVID-19 emergency.

[COVID-19 Response Plan](#) (VHA, 3/23)

[Guidance on teleworking for federal executive agencies](#) (OMB, 3/22)

All Federal Executive Branch departments and agencies within the National Capital Region, consistent with OMB's recent guidance, are asked to offer maximum telework flexibilities to all current telework eligible employees, consistent with operational needs of the departments and agencies as determined by their heads.

[Federal Agency Operational Alignment to Slow the Spread of Coronavirus](#) (OPM, 3/17)

Federal government, in partnership with state and local governments and the private sector, is adopting a concerted a near-term operations posture that will appropriately align critical resources to slow down the transmission of COVID-19, while also ensuring that government operations continue.

[Guidance for Federal agencies on how to respond to the impacts of COVID-19 on the Federal workforce & Q&A for Federal agencies re: additional guidance](#) (OPM, 3/7)

Together, these documents provide additional guidance for Federal agencies; topics discussed include determination of COVID-19 as a quarantinable communicable disease, telework, sick leave and other time off, weather and safety leave, evacuation payments, employee relations, hazardous duty pay, workplace protections, and Office of Workers Compensation Programs.

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Section 11. Children, Pregnancy, Motherhood, and Perinatal Care

[Emergency Medical Care](#) (FEMA, 3/31)

The FEMA COVID-19 Emergency Protective Measures Fact Sheet included a list of eligible emergency medical care activities. This fact sheet provides additional guidance related to the eligibility of emergency medical care activities as an emergency protective measure under the Emergency Declaration and any Major Disaster Declaration authorizing Public Assistance (PA) for COVID-19.

[Children and Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\): Tips to keep children healthy while school's out](#) (CDC, 3/21)

Outlines steps to protect children from getting sick by encouraging them to clean their hands often, avoid people who are sick, clean and disinfect high-touch surfaces daily, and launder certain items.

[Information on COVID-19 and Pregnant Women and Children](#) (CDC, 3/21) and CDC [FAQ](#) (CDC, 2/21)

- [Pregnant Women](#)
- [Children](#)
- [Information on Breastfeeding](#)

No current information from published scientific reports suggest increased susceptibility of pregnant women to COVID-19. No evidence that children are more susceptible.

[COVID-19 FAQs for State Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program \(CHIP\) Agencies](#) (CMS, 3/18)

Answers questions like what resources are available to assist states and territories, how Appendix K can support states' response, what disaster response options states have for separate CHIP programs, etc.

[Webinar: "COVID Update – Information for Clinicians Caring for Children and Pregnant Women"](#) (CDC, 3/12)

[Frequently Asked Questions and Answers: Coronavirus Disease-2019 \(COVID-19\) and Children](#) (CDC 3/1)

Answers FAQs about susceptibility of children, clinical presentation of COVID-19 in children, treatments for children, etc.

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Section 12. Mental Health, At-Risk Individuals, and Populations with Special Medical Needs

[COVID-19 Resources Related to Substance Abuse and Mental Health](#) (SAMHSA)

[People Who Are at Higher Risk for Severe Illness](#) (CDC, 3/31)

CDC outlines all known populations that are at increased risk for severe illness. This list is not exclusive to older adults. Includes people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions.

[Interim Additional Guidance for Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Patients with Suspected or Confirmed COVID-19 in Outpatient Hemodialysis Facilities](#) (CDC, 3/30)

These recommendations should be used with the CDC's [Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Patients with Confirmed Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) or Persons Under Investigation for COVID-19 in Healthcare Settings](#). This information is provided to clarify COVID-19 infection prevention and control (IPC) recommendations that are specific to outpatient hemodialysis facilities. As part of routine infection control, outpatient dialysis facilities should have established policies and practices to reduce the spread of contagious respiratory pathogens. The [Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) Outpatient Dialysis Facility Preparedness Assessment Tool](#) and the link above provide more information.

[People Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness Interim Guidance](#) (CDC, 3/22)

Partnerships and outreach teams will need to be available to coordinate local services to those experiencing homelessness. These outreach teams will need proper PPE and prevention measures.

[Considerations for the Care and Treatment of Mental and Substance Use Disorders in the COVID-19 Epidemic](#) (SAMHSA, 3/20)

Considerations aimed at decreasing the likelihood of infection and viral transmission and providing for the behavioral health needs of patients.

[COVID-19: What people with HIV should know](#) (CDC, 3/18)

FAQs re: relative risk, HIV medicine, travel, etc.

[Interim Considerations for State Psychiatric Hospitals](#) (SAMHSA, 3/18)

[Guidance for Infection Control and Prevention of COVID-19 in Dialysis Facilities](#) (CMS, 3/10)

CMS is providing additional guidance to dialysis facilities to help them focus their infection control and prevention practices to prevent the transmission of COVID-19.

[Guidance for Homeless Shelters](#) (CDC, 3/9)

This interim guidance is intended to support response planning by homeless service providers, including overnight emergency shelters, day shelters, and meal service providers. CDC has developed recommendations for homeless service providers about how to protect their staff, clients, and guests. The Before, During, and After sections of this guidance offer suggested strategies to help homeless service providers plan, prepare, and respond to this emerging public health threat.

[COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Response and 42 CFR Part 2 Guidance](#) (SAMHSA, March)

SAMHSA is providing this guidance to ensure that substance use disorder treatment services are uninterrupted during this public health emergency.

[Stigma Related to COVID-19](#) (CDC, 2/28)

Provides recommendations on how Communicators and public health officials can help counter stigma during the COVID-19 response.

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Section 13. Schools and Educational Settings

[School Closures](#) due to COVID-19 (DoDEA)

[Supplemental Fact Sheet Addressing the Risk of COVID-19 in Preschool, Elementary and Secondary Schools While Serving Children with Disabilities](#) (ED, 3/21)

The Department offers guidance, technical assistance, and information on any available flexibility, within the confines of the law, to ensure that all students, including students with disabilities, continue receiving excellent education during this difficult time. The Department's Office for Civil Rights (OCR) and the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS) have previously issued non-regulatory guidance addressing these issues.

[Webinar on ensuring web accessibility for students with disabilities for schools utilizing online learning during the COVID-19 outbreak](#) (ED, 3/17)

[Fact sheet for education leaders on how to protect students' civil rights as school leaders take steps to keep students safe and secure](#) (ED, 3/16)

DoEd established a working group to provide information and resources to parents, students, teachers, schools, and school personnel related to the possible outbreak of COVID-19 in school districts and secondary schools. Recommends compliance with CDC guidelines.

[Office of Food Safety and Marketing and Regulatory Programs Statement to Industry](#) (USDA, 3/16)

Q&A for schools re: funding available, who is eligible for home-delivered meals, etc.

[Considerations and decision tree for school closure](#) (CDC, 3/13)

[Interim Guidance for Administrators of US Institutions of Higher Education \(IHE\) to Plan, Prepare, and Respond to Coronavirus Disease 2019](#) (CDC, 3/12)

This interim guidance is intended to help administrators of public and private institutions of higher education (IHE) prevent the spread of COVID-19 among students, staff, and faculty. IHE include a diverse set of American colleges and universities: 2- or 4-year; public, private non-profit, or private for-profit; and comprehensive, research-focused, or special mission. IHE administrators are individuals who make policies and procedures, set educational aims and standards, and direct programming of institutions of higher education. Administrators include a range of higher education leaders and managers, such as department chairs/heads, deans, presidents, and provosts.

[Guidance for Schools and Childcare Programs – Checklists for Teachers, Parents, and Administrators](#) (CDC, 3/8)

Checklists to plan and take action if a COVID-19 outbreak occurs in community.

[Resources for Institutes of Higher Education](#) (CDC, 3/8)

The guidance includes considerations to help administrators plan for the continuity of teaching, learning, and research if there is community spread of COVID-19 and address concerns related to COVID-19 associated stigma. Includes a checklist and list of FAQs for administrators.

[Guidance for Interruptions of Study Related to COVID-19](#) (ED, 3/5)

Addresses concerns expressed by higher education leaders regarding how they should comply with Title IV, Higher Education Act (HEA) policies for students whose activities are impacted by Coronavirus (COVID-19), either directly because the student is ill or quarantined, or indirectly because the student was recalled from travel-abroad experiences, can no longer participate in internships or clinical rotations, or attends a campus that temporarily suspended operations.

[COVID-19 Information and Resources for Schools and School Personnel](#) (ED, 3/2)

Collation of CDC resources and guidance.

[Guidance for Student Foreign Travel for Institutions of Higher Education](#) (CDC, 3/1)

Guidance for Institutes of Higher Education (IHE) with students participating in international travel or study abroad programs. IHE's should consider postponing or canceling student international travel programs and should consider asking current program participants to return to their home country.

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Section 14. Travel, Travel Industry, and Transportation Sector

[Coronavirus Disease 2019 Information for Travel](#) (CDC)

[COVID-19 Travel Recommendations by Country](#) (CDC)

[Stay-at-Home Orders for MD, VA, and DC](#) (Washington Headquarters Services)

[Guidance on payroll support to aid airline industry employees, and on loans to airline industry and businesses critical to national security, pursuant to CARES Act](#) (Dept. of the Treasury, 3/30)

The U.S. Department of the Treasury published resources to assist eligible businesses in applying for payroll support to enable the continued payment of employee wages, salaries, and benefits, and for loans pursuant to the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

[COVID-19 and Cruise Ship Travel; Returning travelers](#) (CDC, 3/21)

CDC recommends travelers, particularly those with underlying health issues, defer all cruise ship travel. Cruise ship passengers are at increased risk of person-to-person spread of infectious diseases, including COVID-19. Older adults and travelers with underlying health issues should avoid situations that put them at increased risk for more severe disease, including crowded places, non-essential travel such as long plane trips, and cruise ships.

[Guidance for Travelers from Countries with Widespread Sustained \(Ongoing\) Transmission Arriving in the United States](#) (FAA)

[Making Public Transit Safer During COVID-19 Outbreak](#) (DoT, 3/18)

The Department's Federal Transit Administration (FTA), for example, is working closely with local transit authorities to free up resources to help them deal with COVID-19. Every year, Americans use mass transit to take more than 10 billion trips. FTA is taking steps to make more resources available to local transit authorities to fund cleaning efforts and other measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

[Stop movement of all personnel](#) (DoD, 3/13)

The Department of Defense issued a stop movement of all personnel to, from or through locations designated by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as Level 3 COVID-19 areas effective March 13 and for the next 60 days. Following Secretary of Defense Mark T. Esper's announcement of new travel restrictions, the Air Force began implementing and complying with this guidance.

[Emergency Declaration for Commercial Vehicles Delivering COVID-19 Relief](#) (FMCSA, 3/13)

This declaration addresses National emergency conditions that create a need for immediate transportation of essential supplies, equipment and persons, and provides necessary relieve from FMCSRs for motor carriers and drivers engaged in the transport of essential supplies, equipment, and persons.

[Ban on all domestic travel including permanent change of station moves](#) (DoD, 3/13)

Deputy Secretary of Defense David L. Norquist approved new travel restrictions for service members, DoD civilians, and their families assigned to DoD installations, facilities and surrounding areas within the United States and its territories. This restriction will halt all domestic travel, including Permanent Change of Station, and Temporary Duty. This restriction will also pause civilian hiring at DoD installations and components for persons who do not reside within the hiring entity's local commuting area. Additionally, service members will be authorized local leave only, following service guidelines. This new guidance is effective March 16 and continues through May 11.

[FAQs from Federal Transit Administration Grantees Regarding COVID-19](#) (DoT, 3/9)

These FAQs are intended to provide guidance to transit agencies regarding COVID-19. They cover resources that are available for transit agency use and eligibility of mitigation activities for FTA funding.

[People at Risk for Serious Illness from COVID-19](#) (CDC, 3/8)

Outlines the following recommendations for individuals at high risk of getting very sick from COVID-19; stock up on supplies, take everyday precautions to keep space between yourself and others, when you go out in public, keep away from others who are sick, limit close contact and wash your hands often, avoid

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crowds as much as possible, avoid cruise travel and non-essential air travel, during a COVID-19 outbreak in your community, stay home as much as possible to further reduce your risk of being exposed.

[Communication Resources for Travelers](#) (CDC, 3/7)

Provides up-to-date messages to travelers at specific airports, seaports, and land borders where most international travelers enter or leave the United States.

[Interim Guidance for Airlines and Airline Crew: Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#) (CDC, 3/4)

This document provides interim recommendations for the commercial airline industry about COVID-19 first identified in Wuhan, China. CDC reminds air carriers of the requirement under Title 42 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) section 71.21 to report to CDC ill travelers, who have certain signs and symptoms during flight, and all deaths onboard, before arrival in the United States. This document also contains recommendations for managing ill travelers onboard if COVID-19 infection is suspected and cleaning of aircraft.

[Interim Guidance for Ships on Managing Suspected Coronavirus Disease 2019](#) (CDC, 2/18)

Provides guidance for ships originating from, or stopping in, the United States to help prevent, detect, and medically manage suspected COVID-19 infections.

[Safety Alert for Operators 20001: 2019 Novel Coronavirus: Interim Health Guidance for Air Carrier and Crews](#) (FAA, 2/4)

Provides interim health guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for Air Carriers and Crewmembers, including avoiding public transportation, practice social distancing, proper hygiene practices, and proper quadrating procedures (if necessary).

[Preventing Spread of Disease on Commercial Aircraft: Guidance for Cabin Crew](#) (CDC, 8/30/2019)

Provides cabin crew with practical methods to protect themselves, passengers, and other crew members when someone onboard is sick with a possible contagious disease. Key points include practice routine handwashing, identify sick and potentially infectious travelers, treat all body fluids (such as diarrhea, vomit, or blood) like they are infectious, wear recommended personal protective equipment (PPE), clean and disinfect contaminated areas, and dispose waste using recommended procedures.

Section 15. Cleaning, Surface Decontamination, and Environmental Sanitation

[Enforcement Policy for Sterilizers, Disinfectant Devices, and Air Purifiers During the Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) Public Health Emergency](#) (FDA, March)

This guidance provides a policy to help expand the availability and capability of sterilizers, disinfectant devices, and air purifiers during this public health emergency.

[Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2](#) (EPA, 3/26)

List N includes products that meet EPA's criteria for use against SARS-CoV-2, the novel coronavirus that causes the disease COVID-19.

[Guidance for Industry: Temporary policy for manufacture of alcohol for incorporation into alcohol-based hand sanitizer products during COVID-19](#) (FDA, 3/25)

FDA is issuing this guidance to communicate its policy for the temporary manufacture of ethanol products by firms that manufacture alcohol for incorporation into alcohol-based hand sanitizer products.

[Guidance on production of alcohol-based hand sanitizer during the Public Health Emergency](#) (FDA, 3/20)

FDA does not intend to take action against compounders that prepare alcohol-based hand sanitizers that meet the desired criteria.

[Disinfecting your home if someone is sick](#) (CDC, 3/17)

Wear disposal gloves to clean and disinfect. Clean surfaces using soap and water; Disinfect using diluted bleach solution, alcohol solutions of at least 70%, or household cleaners and disinfectants as appropriate; Do laundry using disposable gloves, clean hands often.

[Registered Antimicrobial Products for Use Against SARS-CoV-2](#) (EPA, 3/5)

Outlines a list of antimicrobial products approved by the EPA to disinfect SARS-CoV-2.

[Water Transmission and COVID-19](#) (CDC, 3/10)

Information regarding whether the virus can spread through drinking water, whether it's found in feces, whether it can spread through pools and hot tubs or sewerage systems, and whether wastewater workers should take extra precautions.

[Environmental Cleaning and Disinfection Recommendations](#) (CDC, 3/6)

This guidance provides recommendations on the cleaning and disinfection of rooms or areas of those with suspected or with confirmed COVID-19 have visited. It is aimed at limiting the survival of novel coronavirus in key environments. These recommendations will be updated if additional information becomes available.

[Recommended Precautions for Preventing Spread of COVID-19 in Election Polling Locations, including Cleaning and Disinfection](#) (CDC, 3/2)

This guidance provides recommendations on the routine cleaning and disinfection of polling location areas and associated voting equipment (e.g., pens, voting machines, computers). It suggests actions that polling station workers can take to reduce the risk of exposure to COVID-19 by limiting the survival of the virus in the environment.

Section 16. Food Supply, Water, and Animal Health

[Enforcement policy regarding requirements to facilitate veterinary telemedicine](#) (FDA, 3/25)

To further facilitate veterinarians' ability to utilize telemedicine to address animal health needs during the COVID-19 outbreak, FDA intends to temporarily suspend enforcement of a portion of the Federal VCPR requirements. Specifically, FDA generally intends not to enforce the animal examination and premises visit VCPR requirements relevant to FDA regulations governing Extralabel Drug Use in Animals (21 CFR part 530) and Veterinary Feed Directive Drugs (21 CFR 558.6).

[Food Planning During the Coronavirus Pandemic](#) (USDA, 3/25)

Contains information on food planning, including what to buy, how much to buy, and preparation tips.

[FAQ for State Animal and Public Health Officials on Companion Animal Coronavirus Testing and Companion Animal Coronavirus Testing](#) [for the Public] (USDA, 3/20)

USDA recommends against SARS-CoV-2 testing for companion animals (pets, service animals), though local veterinarians and state officials may decide to do so when animal illness is linked to a human case. General animal population testing is not done. Guidance includes specimen collection, storage, and transport; confirmation by the National Veterinary Services Laboratory is required.

[SNAP COVID-19 Emergency Allotments Guidance](#) (USDA, 3/20)

Guidance to States in implementing Families First Coronavirus Response Act of 2020, which provides for the issuance of emergency allotments (supplements) based on a public health emergency declaration by the Secretary of Health and Human Services under section 319 of the Public Health Service Act related to an outbreak of COVID-19 when a State has also issued an emergency or disaster declaration.

[Temporary Policy for FSMA Onsite Audit Requirements](#) (FDA, 3/17)

The FDA took steps to help prevent disruptions in the food supply-chain by relaxing some of the requirements of the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) supplier verification.

[COVID-19 Summer Food Service Program \(SFSP\) and Seamless Summer Option \(SSO\) Meal Delivery Using Existing Authority](#) (USDA, 3/17)

Provides a list of FAQ about meals while schools are cancelled during COVID-19 outbreak.

[USDA Makes It Easier, Safer to Feed Children in California amid Coronavirus Outbreak](#) (USDA, 3/7)

On a state-by-state basis, USDA will allow meals to be served at off-campus sites like libraries and churches to ensure kids receive nutritious meals during school closure; will waive the requirement that students must eat in group settings; WA and CA have already received such approvals.

[Veterinary Services, Organisms, and Vectors \(OV\) Permitting Unit regulates importation into the U.S. of COVID-19 isolates exposed to livestock or poultry products](#) (USDA, 2/24)

The Veterinary Services, Organisms and Vectors (OV) Permitting Unit regulates importation into the United States, and interstate transportation, of organisms and vectors of pathogenic diseases of livestock and poultry. Federal regulations mandates that "no organisms or vectors shall be imported into the United States or transported from one State or Territory or the District of Columbia to another State or Territory or the District of Columbia without a permit."

Section 17. Fatalities and Mortuaries

[COVID-19 and Funerals](#) (CDC, 3/12)

Provides a list of FAQ about COVID-19 and funerals.

[Interim Guidance for Collection and Submission of Postmortem Specimens from Deceased Persons Under Investigation \(PUI\) for COVID-19, February 2020](#) (CDC, 2/19)

Guidance for medical examiners, coroners, pathologists, other workers involved in the postmortem care of deceased PUI, and local and state health departments who must collect and submit postmortem specimens from deceased persons under investigation (PUI) for COVID-19. Additionally, it provides recommendations for biosafety and infection control practices during specimen collection and handling, including during autopsy procedures.